

G-5's "Eye on AMC" U.S. Army Materiel Command

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New face to lead Soldiers at AMC

Headquarters Army Materiel Command will soon see a new face leading its enlisted Soldiers and non-commissioned officers.

Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Elder will succeed Command Sgt. Maj. Tyler Walker, II as the 10th AMC command sergeant major. Elder reports to his new position in early July.

A native of San Bernardino, Calif., Elder joined the Army in January 1982 and attended Basic and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Knox, Ky. He is currently serving as the command sergeant major for the 13th Corps Support Command.

The AMC command sergeant major is a special advisor to the AMC commanding general—delivering all news, good and bad, regarding the state of the command, including the enlisted workforce and civilians.

"The incoming command sergeant major must talk and interact with the workforce because there is so much that happens outside of those office doors," said Command Sgt. Maj. Walker. "You have to allow the workforce to express concerns and solutions to problems that may exist. It's all about being a team, and them having the confidence in you to lead them."

Greening goes basic

Gaining field experience with Soldiers under the Greening Program took a new twist when five Soldier Systems Center employees participated in a week of basic combat training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Typically coordinated with units conducting field training exercises, Sgt. 1st Class Sam Newland, Natick Soldier Center's senior enlisted advisor and Greening noncommissioned officer in charge, was invited by the 14th Military Police Training Brigade to lead a Greening class for the first time with a company of recruits.

The employees soldiered through week seven, using all of the their issued individual combat equipment as they lived among the Soldiers, eating rations, digging fighting positions, reacting to a simulated chemical attack and carrying a dummy M-16 rifle.

The group broke away periodically from the controlled schedule to review what they had learned, and at the end of their four days conducted a 3-mile road march led by Newland.

"I put them right into a basic training platoon. But I occasionally pulled them away from the recruits to give them a chance to digest what they had observed and learned," Newland said.

The Natick Soldier Center Greening Program is designed to give scientists and engineers with no military experience a better understanding of the military culture so that they can apply that knowledge on the job, according to Newland.

Tobyhanna first in Army to test wireless tracking

A wireless tracking system pilot program at Tobyhanna Army Depot seeks to increase efficiency by saving time and money.

The Real-Time Locating System, uses active tag radio frequency technology and a Windows-based computer database application to track and locate assets on the depot. The system works by attaching radio frequency tags to items, which range from components, such as wave guides, to complete systems, such as an antenna.

"The system is meant to provide 100 percent visibility of items from shop to shop, eliminate misplacements and the associated phone calls and visits to shops to correct misplacements," said Ronald Rains, Automatic Identification Technology coordinator.

The implementation phase began Nov. 18, 2004. The system will be tested, evaluated and adjusted through September. If successful, the program will be expanded in incremental phases throughout the depot.